

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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This report contains information on Soviet troops and supply installations in the Arkhangelsk Military District.

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Soviet Troops in the Arkhangelsk MD

<u>Town</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Installation</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Cherepovets (N59-08, E37-54)	1948 to January 1950.	1. Billets of one five-story building, about 100 meters long, two garages, and a training ground.	At the western exit of the city.	The installation was referred to as an armored school. Driving practice was regularly held in the training area with several T-34 tanks and one SP gun; the number of tanks did not exceed 15 to 20. New courses of instruction were started every four to six weeks.	
		2. Billets of three four-story brick buildings and one guardhouse; enclosed by a high board fence.	Southeast of the railroad station, on the east side of the northbound thoroughfare.	Occupied by an officer candidate school. One general was observed to be the ranking officer. The troops wore red epaulets with insignia. According to Soviet civilians, the courses lasted for six months, after which the trainees were commissioned as junior lieutenants.	
	February to September 1949.	1. Billets of one large four-story building and one storehouse.	On the western perimeter of the city, on the north side of the westbound thoroughfare.	Occupied by an armored school, which was commanded by a general, [REDACTED]. It was started with about 30 officers and NCOs and attended by 150 to 200 trainees. Part of the personnel wore epaulets with tank insignia and part had epaulets with artillery insignia. Judging from the changing trainees, each course of instruction lasted from four to six weeks. Armored	According to Soviet civilians, an officer candidate school of two buildings was located in the eastern sector of the city.

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1948 to
September
1949.

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Billets.

At the western
exit of the city.

vehicles observed included three T-34 tanks, one JS tank, and three SP artillery pieces mounting short-barreled guns of about 100 mm. Several AT guns, including one of 47 mm, which was equipped with a split-trail carriage, were observed in one of the storehouses. The guns, towed by tanks, were frequently observed moving out of the installation for practice in the field. Combined practices of armored vehicles and infantry were regularly observed in the training area north of the school. Training with signal equipment was seen. Occasionally male and female civilians rode on the tanks driving to the training area. The women were trained as tank gunners and radio operators and the men as tank drivers.

Occupied by a military school, commanded by a Maj. Gen. who allegedly was in charge of the officer candidate school also. Once, about 200 officers ranging from lieutenant up to and including colonel were observed entering the school building. Weapons observed included several T-34 tanks and SP guns, ten AT guns of about 76.2 mm and six of a larger caliber. Teams of eight to ten officers underwent infantry drill and combat training daily and were trained with tanks in the field. Other day, with smoke being employed occasionally.

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2. Billets. Eastern sector of the city, southeast of the railroad station. Occupied by an officer candidate school, attended by members of all branches of service. The personnel was estimated at 500 to 600 including about 70 instructors and NCOs. All trainees were EM who made a good appearance and were well disciplined. When marching out of the installation, the troops carried submachine guns only. The officer candidates were frequently observed marching out for combat practice together with the troops of the military school.
3. Military installation. Southeast of the city, on the northern bank of the Shekana River. The installation, which included four brick buildings, one of which supported a radio tower six meters high, and one oil depot of three open basins, was referred to as a naval base. It was occupied by eight officers and about 100 EM. All warships in this area landed at the base. Some of them were refueled from the oil tanks by large hoses.